

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MANAMA 01363 171031Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 COME-00 OMB-01 XMB-02
/091 W

-----118587 172235Z /62

R 170950Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6298
INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 1363

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, BA, SN
SUBJECT: SINGAPORE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO BAHRAIN

1. SINGAPORE PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW VISITED
BAHRAIN JUNE 5-8 AT INVITATION GOB. PRIME MINISTER
YEW AND HIS PARTY MADE A REAL HIT HERE, PERSONALLY AND
PROFESSIONALLY, AND BAHRAINI OFFICIALS BELIEVE THERE
IS CHANCE FOR MUTUALLY PROFITABLE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN
THE TWO COUNTRIES. FIRST EVENING'S STATE DINNER FOR YEW
BY AMIR WAS UNUSUALLY LIVELY AFFAIR, WITH BAHRAINIS
AND YEW AND HIS PARTY OBVIOUSLY FINDING QUICK AND EASY
RAPPORT. SO MUCH SO THAT BAHRAIN'S PRIME MINISTER
MADE LAST MINUTE CHANGE IN PLANS FOR HIS DINNER FOR YEW
LATER IN VISIT: HE INCLUDED WOMEN FOR FIRST TIME IN
HISTORY OF OFFICIAL BAHRAINI ENTERTAINING. MOREOVER, HE
INSTRUCTED BAHRAIN TV TO SHOW EXTENSIVE FOOTAGE OF THE
AFFAIR. WE WONDER WHAT IMPACT WAS IN SAUDI ARABIA,
PARTS OF WHICH CAN RECEIVE BAHRAIN TV, OF SIGHT OF
FEMALE MEMBERS OF ARAB RULING FAMILY CHATTING WITH
MALE SINGAPOREANS AND WESTERN DIPLOMATS. MIXED EVENT
WAS WELCOMED HERE AND CAUSED ONLY A MINIMUM OF COMMENT--
ALL FAVORABLE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MANAMA 01363 171031Z

2. SUBSTANTIVELY, MAJOR OUTCOME SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN
CREATION OF JOINT COMMITTEE, TO MEET IN OCTOBER, TO EX-
PLORE WAYS IN WHICH BAHRAIN AND SINGAPORE CAN ADVANCE
THEIR COMMON INTERESTS. MINISTER OF COMMERCE TOLD
AMBASSADOR JUNE 14 THAT COMMITTEE'S MANDATE, NOW BEING
DRAFTED, WILL BE TO EXPLORE TWO AVENUES. FIRST, THEY ARE

TO DETERMINE WHAT SINGAPORE MIGHT OFFER BAHRAIN IN TERMS
TECHNICAL SKILLS, PUBLIC HOUSING EXPERTISE, AND PERHAPS
ALSO IN AREA OF MANAGING AN INTERNATIONAL MONEY
MARKET/FINANCE CENTER. SECOND, THEY ARE TO EXPLORE WAYS
IN WHICH BAHRAIN CAN HELP SINGAPORE LEARN ABOUT AND GAIN
BETTER ACCESS TO GULF MARKETS, PARTICULARLY THE SAUDI AND
KUWAITI MARKETS. MINISTER SAID THAT SINGAPORE OFFICIALS ALL
BUT ASKED OUTRIGHT FOR BAHRAINI GOOD OFFICES IN IMPROVING
SINGAPORE'S POSITION WITH SAUDIS AND KUWAITIS. MINISTER
SAID ONE SPECIFIC IDEA WHICH CAME UP WAS SINGAPORE
PROPOSAL TO FORM "TECHNICAL FLYING SQUADS" WHICH WOULD
BE TAILORED TO NEEDS IN THIS AREA AND COULD BE QUICKLY
DISPATCHED FOR SHORT AND MEDIUM TERM PROJECTS.

3. COMMENT: VISITS OVER PAST YEAR OF BAHRAINI
OFFICIALS TO SINGAPORE: HAVE IMPRESSED GOB WITH
OPPORTUNITIES WHICH SINGAPORE'S EXPERIENCES AS
REGIONAL CENTER MIGHT OFFER IN TERMS BAHRAIN'S OWN
ASPIRATIONS TO ADVANCE ITS REGIONAL ROLE. BAHRAINIS
LIKE THE BUSINESS-LIKE APPROACH OF THEIR SINGAPORE
CONTACTS AND THEY CLEARLY FEEL THAT BAHRAIN AND
SINGAPORE CAN WORK WELL TOGETHER TO THEIR MUTUAL AD-
VANTAGE. AMIR REMARKED TO AMBASSADOR JUNE 14 THAT
HIS TALKS WITH YEW WERE AMONG THE MOST OPEN AND USEFUL
HE HAS HAD IN A LONG TIME.

CLUVERIUS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MANAMA 01363 171031Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRIME MINISTER, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MANAMA01363
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780254-0538
Format: TEL
From: MANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780647/aaaabowx.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2116c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2309047
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SINGAPORE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO BAHRAIN
TAGS: PEPR, OVIP, BA, SN, (LEE KUAN YEW)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2116c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014